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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO: 02597

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Marcus FILSHIE et al.
Serial No : 10/031,218
Filed : January 15, 2002
For : SURGICAL CLIP
Examiner : Unknown
Art Unit : 3761

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 16th day of April, 2004.

Patricia Blackwell
Patricia Blackwell

Commissioner for Patent
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicants request consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified case. No fee or certification is required.

Information Cited

The Applicants hereby make of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO/SB08A. The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

Explanation of Non-English Language References

An English language abstract for each of the non-English language references listed on the PTO/SB08A is attached.

Remarks

A copy of each of the above-identified information is enclosed unless otherwise indicated on the attached form PTO/SB/08A (modified). It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO/SB/08A be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants make no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

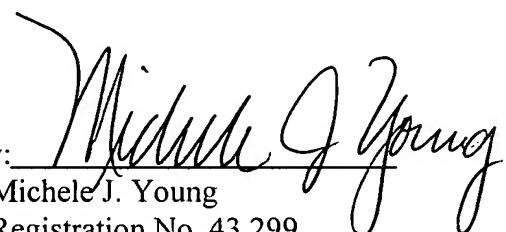
By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants make no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants make no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicants, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
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Registration No. 43,299
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Dated: April 5, 2001

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

3

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/031,218
Filing Date	January 15, 2002
First Named Inventor	Marcus FILSHIE et al.
Group Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	02597

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
1.	3,270,745			Wood	09/06/1966	
2.	3,854,482			Laugherty et al.	12/25/1974	
3.	3,926,195			Bleier et al.	12/25/1975	
4.	4,418,694			Beroff et al.	12/01/1983	
5.	4,424,810			Jewusiak	01/01/1984	
6.	4,489,725			Casey Donn et al.	12/25/1984	
7.	4,702,247			Blake III et al.	10/27/1987	
8.	4,822,348			Casey	04/01/1989	
9.	4,942,886			Timmons	07/01/1990	
10.	4,988,355			Leveen et al.	01/01/1991	
11.	5,002,552			Casey Donn	03/26/1991	
12.	5,171,250			Yoon	12/15/1992	
13.	5,219,353			Garvey, III et al.	06/15/1993	
14.	5,282,812			Suarez, Jr.	01/01/1994	
15.	5,359,993			Slater et al.	11/01/1994	
16.	5,437,680			Yoon	8/1/1995	
17.	5,478,003			Green et al.	12/26/1995	
18.	5,507,297			Slater et al.	04/16/1996	
19.	5,695,505			Yoon	12/09/1997	
20.	5,849,019			Yoon Inbae	12/15/1998	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴				
21.	GB 886356	*		Kariher et al.	01/03/1962		
22.	GB 972 731			Gerendas	10/14/1964		
23.	DE 27 32 326			Gebruder Sulzer AG	01/11/1979		
24.	EP 0 220 643			U.S. Surgical Corp	05/06/1987		
25.	GB 2 243 789			Femcare Limited	11/13/1991		
26.	WO 95/13023			Innovative Surg	05/18/1995		
27.	GB 2,177,748			Femcare Limited	01/28/1987		
28.	GB 2,297,487			Ezech Uchechukwu	08/07/1996		
29.	WO 0105309			Femcare Limited	01/25/2001		
30.	GB 1,530,282			Filshie	10/25/1978		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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PTO/SB/08A (10-96)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		<i>Complete if Known</i>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Application Number	10/031,218
<i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Filing Date	January 15, 2002
		First Named Inventor	Marcus FILSHIE et al.
		Group Art Unit	3761
		Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	2	of	3
Attorney Docket Number			02597

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Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Office ³	Number ⁴			
	33.	GB	2,251,794	Casey Medical Prod	07/22/1992	
	34.	GB	2,226,958	Femcare Limited	07/18/1990	
	35.	WO	91/08708	Yoon	06/27/1991	
	36.	DE	40 15 562	Storz	11/21/1991	
	37.	EP	0 916 309	Schilder	05/19/1999	
	38.	EP	0 820 725	USSC	01/28/1998	
	39.	WO	94/15537	Yoon	07/21/1994	
	40.	GB	2,054,384	Trewavas	02/18/1981	
	41.	FR	2 709 944	Cuilleron	03/24/1995	
	42.	EP	0087941	Ethicon	09/07/1983	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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